

It calls on the Iraqi government to ensure that minority citizens can participate in upcoming elections, and to enforce its constitution, which guarantees "the administrative, political, cultural, and educational rights" of minorities. And it urges a series of steps to ensure that development aid and other forms of support flow to minority communities.

I encourage the administration and the United Nations to address these steps without delay. I hope our fellow senators will join with Senator BROWNBACK, Senator DURBIN and me to voice the sense of the Senate on this important matter.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2700. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3548, to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the temporary availability of certain additional emergency unemployment compensation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2701. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3548, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2702. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3548, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2700. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3548, to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the temporary availability of certain additional emergency unemployment compensation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Insert after section 5 the following:

SEC. 6. SENSE OF THE SENATE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds as follows:

(1) There has been concern expressed by some across our Nation, including on the Nation's airwaves, regarding whether Congress has the constitutional authority to legislate national health care reform.

(2) Certain citizens, commentators, and public officials have questioned whether the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States precludes the Federal Government from providing related health care benefits to its people.

(3) Numerous State legislative bodies have passed resolutions raising questions regarding the scope of the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and the constitutionality of certain Federal programs.

(4) The Federal Government has a long and successful history of providing health care benefits to its citizens through Federal programs.

(5) Among other Federal initiatives, in 1930, Congress established the Veterans Administration, an entity that provided Federal benefits, including Federal health care benefits, to veterans of the Armed Forces, and the Veterans Administration was later merged into the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(6) In 1954, Congress established the Indian Health Service to provide medical and public

health services to members of federally-recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Natives.

(7) In 1956 and 1966, respectively, Congress passed the Dependents' Medical Care Act (70 Stat. 250) and the Military Medical Benefits Amendments of 1966 (Public Law 89-614; 80 Stat. 862) in order to expand coverage to military personnel and dependents, and these programs were later merged into the TRICARE program, which provides health benefits for military personnel, military retirees, and their dependents.

(8) In 1965, the United States established the Medicare program to provide Federal health care benefits to United States citizens over the age of 65.

(9) In 1965, the United States established the Medicaid program to provide Federal health care benefits to individuals at, near, or below the Federal poverty line.

(10) In 1997, the United States established the State Children's Health Insurance Program to provide health insurance to certain children in families above the Federal poverty line.

(11) In 2009, the United States expanded the State Children's Health Insurance Program to cover an additional 4,000,000 children.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the following Federal benefit programs are in direct violation of the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and should be terminated as soon as practicable: the Veterans Health Administration benefit programs, the Indian Health Service, TRICARE, Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

SA 2701. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3548, to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the temporary availability of certain additional emergency unemployment compensation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. ____ . 2-YEAR EXTENSION OF LOW-INCOME HOUSING CREDIT RULES FOR CERTAIN DISASTER AREAS.

Section 1400N(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking "January 1, 2011" and inserting "January 1, 2013".

SA 2702. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3548, to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the temporary availability of certain additional emergency unemployment compensation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Insert after section 5 the following:

SEC. 6. LIMITATIONS ON THE USE OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED.

No funds appropriated under title IV of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110-252), as amended by this Act, shall be allocated to the following Federal benefit programs:

- (1) The Veterans Health Administration benefit programs.
- (2) The Indian Health Service.
- (3) TRICARE.
- (4) Medicare.
- (5) Medicaid.
- (6) The Children's Health Insurance Program.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SPECTER. Madam President, on behalf of our distinguished majority

leader, I have been asked to do what is called wrap-up.

As in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that on Tuesday, October 27, the vote on confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 470 occur at 2:20 p.m., and that the 5 minutes immediately prior to the vote be available to Senator BYRD; further, that the other provisions of the previous order remain in effect; that upon confirmation and the Senate resuming legislative session, the Senate then proceed to a period of morning business until 5:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes, and that the time be equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees; that at 5:30 p.m. there be 30 minutes of debate prior to a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 3548, with the time equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees; that at 6 p.m. the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

Mr. SPECTER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1929, introduced earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1929) to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SPECTER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1929) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1929

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAMS UNDER THE SMALL BUSINESS ACT AND THE SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT ACT OF 1958.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to extend temporarily certain authorities of the Small Business Administration", approved October 10, 2006 (Public Law 109-316; 120 Stat. 1742), as most recently amended by section 1 of Public Law 111-66, is amended by striking "October 31, 2009" each place it appears and inserting "April 30, 2010".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 30, 2009.